

Serial No.: 09/725,674

REMARKS

Accordingly, approval and entry of the amendments by the primary Examiner in charge of the subject application is respectfully requested.

Dependent claims 6, 7, and 8 recite the feature of "said secret key," and are amended to be dependent upon claim 4 instead of claim 1. This is in order to provide antecedent basis since the feature of "a secret key" is first introduced in dependent claim 4 not independent claim 1. Dependent claim 12 and 13 recite or refer to respectively the features of "extracted" and "composited", and are amended to be dependent upon claim 9 instead of claim 1. This is in order to provide antecedent basis in features of "extracting" and "compositing" are first introduced in dependent claim 9 not independent claim 1. These changes to the four dependent claims did not effect the scope of the invention, do not raise new issues, and are provided to correct dependency of the claims for antecedent basis that are obvious from the record.

If any further fees are required in connection with the filing of this Amendment, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY

Date

September 1, 2004

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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to: Commissioner for Patents,
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on September 1, 2004
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Date: September 1, 2004